

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 COTONO 00803 011406Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-06 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
PA-01 ICA-11 /042 W
-----036765 020732Z /11
R 011300Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 789
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 803

FOR AF/W

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EINV, DM
SUBJ: JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES COMPENSATION NEGOTIATIONS

1. IN COURSE OF JUNE 1 MEETING WITH GOVERNMENT OF PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF BENIN (GPRB) DIRECTOR OR PROTOCOL AND CONSULAR
AFFAIRS PAQUI, CHARGE INQUIRED ABOUT THE STATUS OF SAFE CONDUCT
ASSURANCES FOR PROPOSED JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES NEGOTIATOR CARLOW
PROSSER. CHARGE REMINDED PAQUI THAT EMBASSY HAD SENT TWO NOTES
CONCERNING PROSSER, MOST RECENT ONE ON MAY 24. CHARGE SAID
THAT HE HOPED TO RECEIVE CONFIRMATION IN THE NEAR FUTURE SO
THAT NEGOTIATIONS COULD PROCEED.

2. PAQUI REPLIED THAT PROSSER'S SAFE CONDUCT REQUEST IS STILL
BEING CONSIDERED BY MIN OF INTERIOR AND ADDED THAT HE COULD
PROVIDE NO ASSURANCES THAT AN ANSWER WOULD BE FORTHCOMING
IMMEDIATELY. PAQUI SAID THE INTERIOR MINISTRY IS NOTORIOUSLY
SLOW IN MATTERS INVOLVING INVESTIGATIONS OF INDIVIDUALS SINCE
NUMEROUS DOSSIERS MUST BE CHECKED. HE SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD
BE IN WITNESSES' INTEREST TO PROPOSE ANOTHER NEGOTIATOR
NOT DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE 1976 EXPULSION.

3. COMMENT: WHILE IT IS POSSIBLE THAT INTERIOR MINISTRY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 COTONO 00803 011406Z

MAY GRANT SAFE CONDUCT TO PROSSER, GETTING NECESSARY CLEARANCES
IS OBVIOUSLY GOING TO TAKE TIME. DEPARTMENT SHOULD ALSO
REMIND WITNESSES THAT EXPULSION CAME ABOUT ON DIRECT ORDERS
FROM INTERIOR MINISTER AZONHIHO WHO HAD TRIED TO PERSUADE
WITNESSES TO ACKNOWLEDGE LEGITIMACY OF THE REVOLUTION IF THEY
WISHED TO REMAIN IN BENIN. AT TIME OF EXPULSION AZONHIHO EMOTIONALLY
ACCUSED WITNESSES OF BEING FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE AGENTS.

GIVEN TIME FACTORS INVOLVED AND INTERIOR MINISTER'S SENSI-
TIVITY ABOUT ISSUE, RECOMMEND ONCE AGAIN THAT DEPARTMENT CONTACT
WITNESSES AND SUGGEST PROPOSING ANOTHER NEGOTIATOR. THOMPSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMPENSATION, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978COTON000803
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780230-0954
Format: TEL
From: COTONOU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197806108/aaaadpgd.tel
Line Count: 65
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1ea7c97d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2166380
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES COMPENSATION NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: EINV, DM, JEHOVAHS WITNESSES
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1ea7c97d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014